NOTE V.

TWO NEW ASIATIC SPECIES OF THE COLEOPTEROUS GENUS HELOTA

DESCRIBED BY

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Helota lugubris, n. sp. ♂.

This new species is closely allied to *Helota Vandepolli* Rits. [1]) from Borneo, but at once distinguished by the more strongly raised interstices of the elytra, by the deeper angular notches at the apical portion of the lateral margins of the elytra and by the more blackish (less bronze) colour of the upper side.

Length 12 mm. — Subshining above, very shining underneath; above blackish, with very faint tinges of dark bronze green; each elytron provided with two small convex flavous spots, situated between the 3rd and 6th striae; underneath testaceous, except the head without the throat, the anterior margin and the front angles of the middle portion as well as the lateral portions of the prosternum, and the elytral epipleurae which parts are dark bronze green. Antennae dark pitchy, the 3 or 4 basal joints reddish. Legs testaceous, the tip of the femora and the extreme base and apex of the tibiae black, the tarsi dark pitchy brown.

Head strongly produced in front of the eyes, almost inconspicuously raised between the eyes, the raised portion broadly flattened and covered with large punctures, which are strongly contrasting with those on the lateral streaks along the eyes, where they are minute and closely set; along the middle of the narrowed front portion the punctures are still smaller and scarce.

1) Notes Leyd. Mus. Vol. XIII (1891), pp. 197, 223.

Prothorax widest at the base, slightly narrowing towards the front margin in faintly convex sides; the front angles but slightly produced; the base bisinuate, the lateral angles acute, the median lobe rounded and with a punctiform impression; the disk strongly and rather regularly densely punctured, with the usual slightly raised nearly impunctate patches, viz. a mesial forked one, extending from the base to the front margin, an elongate basal one on each side of the former, and a smaller one in front of the basal patches. The scutellum is small, subtransverse, and almost invisibly impressed along the middle. The bronze coloured lateral portions of the prosternum show a few distinct punctures. An impressed line runs all along the middle of the metasternum.

Elytra parallel, narrowing in regularly curved lines just behind the posterior convex yellow spot and here provided with three angular notches on the right and two similar ones on the left elytron; the apices are broadly conjointly rounded and slightly dehiscent at the suture, without distinct sutural spine. Each elytron with ten very regularly punctured striae of which the 4th and 5th are interrupted by the yellow convex spots and are not continued behind the posterior ones; the punctures of the striae gradually increase in size from the first (sutural) to the last (marginal) one; the interstices between the 1st and 4th striae are subcostate (more strongly raised, however, towards the apex); the following interstices narrower and alternately more strongly raised as well as extending farther backward; the apical portion of the 6th interstice, which does not reach the apical margin, is more strongly raised than any of the others, and consequently very obvious. The epipleurae are impunctate.

Abdomen smooth and shining; the basal segment with a trace of a longitudinal impression at the base; the apical segment strongly transverse, its apical margin slightly convex in the middle, at both ends of the convex line a small though distinct impression.

The legs are smooth and impunctate; the anterior tibiae

regularly and rather strongly curved; the posterior femora slightly curved, the tibiae as long as the femora, straight, provided at the end with a small tuft of long reddish hairs.

Hab. Laos: Kong Kahas, Province Savannakit. — A single ♂ which belongs to the „Muséum de Paris" and which was kindly communicated to me by Mr. Antoine Grouvelle.

Helota distincta, n. sp. ♂ and ♀.

Formerly I believed this Chinese species to be a variety of *Helota fulviventris* Kolbe [1]) from Corea, but now, after having seen more specimens, I am convinced of its specific distinctness.

Both species are to be separated at a glance by the different coloration of the legs and of the metasternum.

In *fulviventris* the legs and the metasternum are black; in the new species the legs are partly black partly testaceous yellow [2]), and the metasternum too is testaceous yellow.

As to the shape and sculpture both species are alike, but in *fulviventris* ♂ the legs are more slender and the anterior tibiae less curved than in *distincta* ♂; in *fulviventris* ♀ the apical margin of the last ventral segment is more convex between the two impressed punctures than in *distincta* ♀. In the ♂ of both species the apical ventral segment is broadly truncate, the truncation preceded by a large tomentose impression.

Finally the metallic colours are more vivid in the new species than in *fulviventris*.

The length of *H. distincta* varies between 12 and 16 mm.

Hab. China: Siao-Lou, Su-Tchuen and Oui-sy. — Both sexes are in the collection of Mr. René Oberthür and in the Leyden Museum.

Leyden Museum, February 1914.

1) Arch. f. Naturgesch. Jahrg. LII (1886) I, p 182, t. 11, f. 25, ♀. — Notes Leyd. Mus. Vol. XIII (1891) p. 225.

2) Coxae and trochanters black; basal two-thirds of femora testaceous yellow, apical third purplish or bronze black; basal half and apex of tibiae black, the rest testaceous yellow; tarsi pitchy black, the claws paler.